



### HELLISH HEAT IN SRI LANKA

Despite the fact there is no volcanic activity in Sri Lanka, which is outside any known volcanic zone, mysterious smoke is arising from a dry river bed in the region of the tourist resort Diyatalawa. Plants have been withered by the 300-degree ground temperature, said D.A. Kathriarachchi, the Geological Survey Department's deputy director. The phenomenon, which has produced the highest

temperature ever recorded in Sri Lanka, has puzzled scientists.

(Source: *The Press Democrat* [Santa Rosa, CA], 9 May 1992)

### MARYLAND MERMAID

I was fishing up at Shark Fin one day. I had a good day fishing. Now I was by myself so I had no one to prove what I saw was actually true but I saw it just as sure as day. I have caught a whole lot of fish—trout and bluefish. I'd say it was a New York boxful [approx 100 lbs of fish].

Then I got something on my line and I thought it was a skate, it was so heavy. I pulled it in alongside the boat and on the end of my line was the most pretty young girl I had ever seen.

She had long flowing black hair but the bottom of her from

her waist down looked like a fish tail.

The hook appeared to be caught in her mouth but when she got up near my boat she broke away and I never say anything like that again. Now I tell my family this story and they say I'm crazy but I can only say what I saw that day.

I have been a waterman for my whole life and all that time I have only witnessed two things that I couldn't account for, and this was one of them.

Eldon Willing, Sr, Chance, Maryland.

(Source: *Letter to Strange Magazine* #10)

### ROWDY POLICEMEN

The inebriated conventioners sprayed fire extinguishers, pulled 22 fire alarms, walked off with two televisions and broke ice machines in the Cape Cod Plaza Hotel in Barnstable, Massachusetts.

Barnstable policemen patrolled the hallways later, because of these incidents at the convention of the Massachusetts Police Association.

Police officer John Brown of Boston apologized: "There's no excuse...for it. We're embarrassed."

(Source: *USA Today*, 15 November 1991)



## EXTRATERRESTRIAL EXPOSURE LAW ALREADY PASSED BY CONGRESS

On 5 October 1982, Dr Brian T. Clifford of the Pentagon announced at a press conference (*The Star*, New York, 5 Oct. 1982) that contact between US citizens and extraterrestrials or their vehicles is strictly illegal.

According to a law already on the books (Title 14, Section 1211 of the Code of Federal Regulations, adopted on 16 July 1969, before the Apollo moon shots), anyone guilty of such contact automatically becomes a wanted criminal to be jailed for one year and fined US\$5,000.

The NASA administrator is empowered to determine, with or without a hearing, that a person or object has been "extraterrestrially exposed" and impose an indeterminate quarantine under armed guard, which could not be broken even by court order.

There is no limit placed on the number of individuals who could thus be arbitrarily quarantined.

The definition of "extraterrestrial exposure" is left entirely up to the NASA administrator, who is thus endowed with total dictatorial powers to be exercised at his slightest caprice, which is completely contrary to the Constitution.

According to Dr Clifford, whose commanding officers have been assuring the public for the last 39 years that UFOs are nothing more than hoaxes and delusions to be dismissed with a condescending smile, "This is really no joke; it's a very serious matter."

This legislation was buried in the 1,211th subsection of the 14th section of a batch of regulations very few members of government probably bothered to read in its entirety—the proverbial needle in the haystack—and was slipped onto the books without public debate.

Thus from one day to the next we learn that, without having informed the public, in its infinite wisdom, the government of the United States has created a whole new criminal class: UFO contactees.

The lame excuse offered by NASA as a sugar coating for this bitter pill is that extraterrestrials might have a virus that could wipe out the human race. This is certainly one of the many possibilities inherent in such contact, but just as cer-

tainly not the only one, and in itself not a valid reason to make all contact illegal or to declare contactees criminals to be jailed and fined immediately.

It appears the primary effect of such a law would not be to prevent contact: it would be to silence witnesses.

According to NASA spokesman Fletcher Reel, the law as it stands is not immediately applicable, but in case of need could quickly be made applicable. What this means is that it is ambiguously worded, so that it can be interpreted either one way or the other, as the government desires.

It is certainly not a coincidence that Dr Clifford held his press conference during the period when the popularity of the film *E.T.* was at its peak. As *E.T.* portrayed a type of extraterrestrial that was benevolent and lovable, the inference is that the press conference was intended to discourage attempts to communicate or fraternise with UFO occupants. However, instead of having the intended effect, it backfired, causing public furore.

There may be some relationship between this fiasco and the next semi-officially endorsed attempt to deal with the subject of extraterrestrials, the TV series 'V', which was featured with repeat performances and maximum publicity by major networks worldwide. The aliens portrayed in 'V' are the most horrifying and repulsive nightmares imaginable, but are defeated thanks largely to a CIA hit man specialising in covert operations.

(Source: MUFONET Network, 23 March 93)

## MOTHER NATURE GIVES A BIG WAVE

A wall of water arose from a calm sea and wreaked havoc when it came ashore in Daytona Beach, Florida, damaging hundreds of parked vehicles and injuring 75 people, during late July 3rd, 1992.

The 27-mile-long rogue wave was apparently the result of an undersea landslide, according to a federal seismologist.

"I saw this huge wall of white water," said Roy Bennett of South Daytona Beach, who had been strolling with his wife on the beach. "If we hadn't run, we'd have been pinched in between cars or cars would have been on top of us."

Most of the damage from the 18-foot-tall wave was around the Main Street pier of Daytona Beach.

(Source: *The Miami Herald*, 5 July 1992)

## SHOCKING EXPERIENCE

A woman came home to find her husband frantically shaking in the kitchen, with what looked like an electrical wire running from his waist towards the electric kettle.

She picked up a heavy piece of wood and smashed it into him to jolt him away from the current, breaking his arm in two places.

She then discovered that he was listening to his Walkman and having a jig.

(Source: *Fortean Times* #69, 1993)



Samerille

# THE TWILIGHT ZONE

## HEAVEN SENT

Thai authorities have seized a football-sized meteorite weighing 37 lbs, which villagers began to worship after it crashed to earth recently.

The seizure was ordered under laws stating that "all objects fallen from other planets or even from the sky" were state property.

## STRANGE DEATHS

Psychiatrist Oscar Dominguez, 45, shot dead a woman patient in his Sao Paulo office as she told him about her sex life.

"I couldn't take those nutcases any more," he told a court, where he faced a 25-year sentence.

(Source: *Daily Star [UK]*, 27 November 1992)

Shy married couple, Sachi and Tomio Hidaka, both 34, waited 14 years to make love—and died of heart attacks the first time they tried it.

They had no history of heart trouble according to their doctor in Chiba, Japan.

(Source: *Daily Mirror*, 11 October 1992)

## HELL UNDER SIBERIA A HOAX?

Various international periodicals, (including NEXUS vol.2, #9) reported that geologists from the Joint European Science Drilling Project drilled a nine-mile hole into the Siberian earth and heard the screams of damned souls

from within. Even a supposed special counsellor to the Minister of Justice in Oslo, Norway, was said to have believed the story.

The tale turned out to be the work of Age Rendelin, a teacher from near Oslo, who claimed to have faked the story and "supporting evidence" in order to test media verification techniques.

(Sources: *Strange Magazine* #9, 1992; *Biblical Archaeology Review*, Nov.-Dec. 1990; *Christianity Today*, 16 July 1990)

## LUCKY STARS IN LITHGOW

The battling mining town of Lithgow, in the Blue Mountains, is celebrating an extraordinary lucky streak which has seen a handful of families become rich overnight.

The amazing run of luck began a couple of weeks ago, when a resident pulled off a rare \$10,000 linked jackpot at the Lithgow Workmen's Club.

The champagne kept flowing when a young family next door took out a \$500,000 Lotto prize and another neighbour won a \$23,000 motorcycle.

A few days later, another neighbour across the road had three shares in a \$350,000 first-division Lotto prize.

Then, a one-dollar Instant Lottery ticket left another resident \$25,000 richer, another family hit the jackpot with a \$100,000 lottery windfall, and a Lotto syndicate won a \$14,000 second-division prize!

(Source: *Sun-Telegraph*, 13 June 1993)

## MYSTERY MAN FALLS FROM THE SKY IN FRANCE

As Ms Denise Brisson, a pensioner in the town of Eaubonne near Paris, was talking to her brother-in-law on the phone last week, when she heard something heavy hit the ground of the family garden just outside the window.

When Ms Brisson looked outside, she discovered with amazement a frozen man, about 35 years old, buried 15cm in her garden's rich soil.

Since then, the mystery of the man who fell from the sky hasn't stopped puzzling French police.

The police are certain the man must have fallen from a plane, as the family's garden is situated near Paris's giant Roissy airport.

But how he became frozen, and the lack of any identification, has the authorities baffled.

The mystery deepened when 50 Russian roubles were found in the dead man's pockets.

These particular roubles have not been in circulation for years.

(Source: *The Australian*, 17-18 July 1993)

## URI GELLER VS JAMES RANDI

Uri Geller has won one of his legal actions against US magician James Randi. The action stemmed from an interview by Randi in 1989 in the Japanese magazine *Days Japan*, published by Kodansha, one of the country's largest publishing houses.

Geller, who was awarded costs, said the allegation was defamatory and damaging to his business and family.

Randi had asserted that metallurgist Dr Wilbur Franklin, who had endorsed Geller's metal-bending feats, became so ashamed when Randi 'discredited' Geller, that he shot himself. In fact, Franklin died of natural causes.

Geller has other suits pending against Randi, including one in Washington DC. "Randi has claimed that I was convicted for the work I did in Israel. You can imagine how harmful that is to me and my family," he said. "I have never been arrested, let alone convicted, of anything, anywhere in the world."

(Source: *Fortean Times* #69, 1993)



## CATTLE MUTILATIONS IN NORWAY

A biology professor says Norwegians' imaginations have gone too far after suggestions that 18 cows found killed had been raped by a sex-starved bear.

The rape theory was proposed by a university lecturer to explain the mysterious deaths of the 18 cows in a rural part of Norway.

(Source: *Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 December 1992)

## A FLYING SAUCER WAVE IN THE 1930s

We learn from Siever's book, *Flying Saucers uber Sudafrika*, that there was a real UFO 'flap' in Scandinavia in 1934.

On page 87 we read: "The modern saucer epidemic actually began in 1934, in the Scandinavian countries. In the spring of that year, the Swedish periodicals were full of reports of ghostly light appearances in the skies, which were soon dubbed "ghost airships" (Spokflygaren). These disappearing or hovering lights were seen from the South Norwegian fjords to Finnish Lapland, which caused people to suppose that they came from Russia.

Some would have it that this was known for certain, and a pamphlet was published called "The Ghost Airplanes are Russian Spies". However, the solution to the riddle was never found.

The phenomena at that time were the

same as those we encounter in today's reports. From the nine sharp balls of light seen over the snowy landscape by the Stensele policeman, Ture Gustaffson, on New Year's night, 1934, up to the "wandering light, like a dish", seen by the farmer John Norberg of Harnosund on 9 October 1945, it was always saucers, teacups, coins, and discs of light.

By the year 1946, 10 per cent of the Swedish General Staff alone contained more than 1000 reports, 10 per cent of which were considered unexplainable. Sievers gives as reference an article by E. M. Salzer in the inaccessible German religious magazine *Christ & Welt* (no. 6, January 1955, Stuttgart).

(Source: *Space Probe Newsletter*, September 1959, C.S.I. [NZ])

## LIGHTNING STRIKES TWICE IN THE SAME PLACE

Jennifer Roberts, while out camping with her husband Brad in south-eastern Australia, read Stephen King's *The Dead Zone* — and was shocked.

Not by the book, whose cover depicted a man being struck by lightning, but by a real lightning bolt!

Brad Roberts told of watching her when this happened on 25 October 1991, as the bolt entered through her watchband and burned down to her toes.

She described her experience, saying, "The scariest part was the feeling that my body had swelled up to ten-times its

normal width and was about to explode." Afterwards, the 23-year-old woman was paralysed for about an hour. The book was in worse shape, as most of it was burned through.

(Source: *The Seattle Times*, 29 October 1991)

## TAKING HIS MEDICINE

Dr Robert Lambourn was driving to his surgery in Northumberland, UK, when he came across what appeared to be a train smash.

There were more than 60 bodies scattered around the wreck, and a police helicopter was hovering overhead.

The good doctor noticed that no ambulances or paramedics had arrived, so he grabbed his bag and raced over to the scene of the carnage.

He found one man apparently semi-conscious, with a grisly leg injury.

As he injected him with painkiller, the victim said: "Do we really have to go that far?"

It turned out that the crash had been staged as a training exercise for emergency crews.

The 'patient' was taken to hospital to sleep off his injection.

(Source: *People magazine*, 6 January 1993)

Send your favourite 'Twilight Zone' clippings to:  
NEXUS Magazine, PO Box 30  
Mapleton, Qld 4560, Australia